

I/We Claim:

1. An electrical connector, comprising:

a terminal block having an electric wire receiving  
passageway that communicates with a spring receiving  
passageway;

a housing provided with a contact, the contact having  
a piercing member that extends into the electric wire  
receiving passageway for piercing a sheathing member of an  
electric wire received in the electric wire receiving  
passageway; and

a spring member arranged in the spring receiving  
passageway, the spring member having a contact retaining  
portion that urges the electric wire toward the piercing  
member.

2. The electrical wire of claim 1, wherein the terminal block  
moves between a pre-latched position and a locked  
position, the piercing member protrudes into the electric  
wire receiving passageway to pierce the electric wire in  
the locked position.

3. The electrical wire of claim 2, further comprising a  
support arm that presses the electric wire toward the  
piercing member.

4. The electrical wire of claim 1, wherein the spring member is formed from a metal plate.

5. The electrical wire of claim 1, wherein the spring member has a fixed end press-fitted into the terminal block.

6. The electrical wire of claim 1, wherein the contact retaining portion has a slit for receiving the piercing member.

7. The electrical wire of claim 6, wherein the slit is chamfered for guiding the electric wire.

8. The electrical wire of claim 1, wherein the spring member has a fixed end and a free end and a bead is provided between the fixed end and the free end.

9. The electrical wire of claim 1, wherein the electric wire receiving passageway and the spring receiving passageway extend in a direction parallel to each other.

10. The electrical wire of claim 1, wherein the electric wire receiving passageway has an octagonal shape to limit deformation of the electric cable.

11. The electrical wire of claim 1, wherein the terminal block is formed from a transparent resin to check positioning of the electric cable.

5 12. An electrical connector, comprising:

a terminal block having an electric wire receiving passageway that communicates with a spring receiving passageway, the terminal block moves between a pre-latched position and a locked position;

10 a housing provided with a contact, the contact having a piercing member for piercing a sheathing member of an electric wire and urging the electric wire toward the spring receiving passageway when the terminal block is moved to the locked position; and

15 a spring member arranged in the spring receiving passageway, the spring member having a contact retaining portion for urging the electric wire toward the piercing member as the piercing member urges the electric wire toward the contact retaining portion.

20

13. The electrical connector of claim 12, wherein the piercing member orthogonally extends into the electric wire receiving passageway when the terminal block is in the locked position.

25

14. The electrical wire of claim 12, further comprising a support arm that presses the electric wire toward the piercing member.

5 15. The electrical wire of claim 12, wherein the spring member is formed from a metal plate.

16. The electrical wire of claim 12, wherein the spring member has a fixed end press-fitted into the terminal block.

10

17. The electrical wire of claim 12, wherein the contact retaining portion has a slit for receiving the piercing member.

15 18. The electrical wire of claim 17, wherein the slit is chamfered for guiding the electric wire.

19. The electrical wire of claim 12, wherein the spring member has a fixed end and a free end and a bead is provided  
20 between the fixed end and the free end.

20. The electrical wire of claim 12, wherein the electric wire receiving passageway and the spring receiving passageway extend in a direction parallel to each other.

25

21. The electrical wire of claim 12, wherein the electric wire receiving passageway has an octagonal shape to limit deformation of the electric cable.